

Abstract

The MA thesis called “Transformation of the labour markets in the United Kingdom, Germany and France in 2007-2010” tests the theory underlying models of capitalism in the context of the EU’s Europeanization policies. The theoretical concept is analysed through labour market reforms in the UK, Germany and France between 2007 and 2010. For the purposes of this work, the United Kingdom represents a liberal market economy, Germany a coordinated market economy and France is considered a state-influenced market economy. The time span of the present study is linked to the concept of flexicurity, i.e. the EU’s policy aiming to modernize and harmonize the Member States’ labour markets, implemented in 2007-2010 within the Lisbon Strategy. The primary objective of the present work is to verify whether the labour market reforms introduced by the British, German and French governments corresponded to their national models of capitalism in the period from 2007 to 2010. The present thesis also explores the degree to which the national governments and social partners of the UK, Germany and France identified with the concept of flexicurity in 2007-2010. Using the method of a comparative synchronous case study, the research shows that not all labour market reforms were in full compliance with the national models. However, all three governments showed specific features characteristic of their national models of capitalism in the studied period. The results also indicate that the political representatives and social partners of the United Kingdom, Germany and France did not identify with the flexicurity concept as such in 2007-2010.